

CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A method, implemented on a computer system, of handling user-defined options during a copy and paste or a cut and paste operation within a multi dimensional spreadsheet (200) comprising a plurality of cells identified by a cell address along each dimension, said method comprising the steps of:

defining one or a plurality of combinations, each combination comprising one or a plurality of options;

defining a source cell range and a destination cell range;

defining an operation to execute, either copy and paste, or cut and paste;

for each defined option combination comprising one or a plurality of options, if at least one cell in the source cell range comprises a reference to said one or plurality of options,

computing the content of each cell within the source cell range according to said one or plurality of options;

creating a version instance of the destination cell range;

copying the source range of cells into said version instance; and

when the last option combination is copied, clearing the source cell range if the operation is cut and paste;

wherein each of said options is defined as a Boolean variable, which can be set as "True" or "False," and impact the content of a cell within an electronic spreadsheet.

2. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 comprising the further steps of:

assigning a name for each defined combination of options; and

naming the version instance with the defined combination name.

3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 comprising the preliminary steps of:

defining each option as a Boolean variable;

referencing said one or plurality of Boolean variables in one or a plurality of cells.

4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein said step of computing the content of each cell within the source cell range according to one or plurality of options, comprises the further steps of:
- activating the one or plurality of Boolean variables corresponding to the current option combination; and
 - determining the content of each said cell with the source cell range depending on whether said one or plurality of Boolean variables are activated or not.
5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 comprising the further step of:
- setting the value of the Boolean variable to one when the Boolean variable is activated, or
 - setting the value of the Boolean variable to zero when the Boolean variable is not activated.
6. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein one or more of said steps are executed by means of an interactive user interface.
7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 6 wherein said interactive user interface comprises:
- a dialog box;
 - displayed on a screen (106);
 - of a computer system (100).
8. (Currently amended) A computer system comprising:
- means for defining one or a plurality of combinations, each combination comprising one or a plurality of options;
 - means for defining a source cell range and a destination cell range;
 - means for defining an operation to execute, either copy and paste, or cut and paste;

means for computing the content of each cell within the source cell range according to said one or plurality of options;
means for creating a version instance of the destination cell range; and
means for copying the source range of cells into said version instance;
wherein each of said options is defined as a Boolean variable, which can be set as "True" or "False," and impact the content of a cell within an electronic spreadsheet.

9. (Previously presented) A computer-usable medium comprising computer readable instructions adapted for carrying out the method according to claim 1.